

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

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1-4 (Cancelled).

B1 5. (Currently Amended) A fault management system for a switching equipment as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 9, wherein said concentrated fault management section sends a notification of occurrence of a fault to a central control section connection to an external console.

6-8 (Cancelled).

9. (New) A fault management system for a switching equipment which includes a circuit section connected to an external terminal equipment over a communication circuit, a switch section for communicating data which said circuit section, and a processor for performing setting and control of said circuit section, protocol processing of a transmission/reception packet and other necessary processing over a processor bus, comprising:

a clock fault detection section for detecting whether or not supply of a clock signal from an oscillator for supplying the clock signal to said processor is interrupted, and

a concentrated fault management section connected to said clock fault detection section and said processor bus for supervising the normality of said processor bus and continuously signaling, if a fault notification of the interruption of the supply of the clock signal is received from said clock fault detection section, a reset signal to said processor and said circuit section so that data in a data link layer or an upper layer may not flow.